

# OXFORD OBSERVER.

"LOVE ALL, DO WRONG TO NONE, BE CHECK'D FOR SILENCE BUT NEVER TAX'D FOR SPEECH.".....SHAKESPEARE.

VOLUME I.

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## THE OBSERVER

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## THE REPOSITORY.

The 4th volume of the "Biography of the Signers of the Declaration of Independence, by Robert Walsh, Jr." contains an interesting sketch of the life of the celebrated Dr. Rush, who as a Representative from Pennsylvania, subscribed his name to that memorable instrument. From this sketch we select the following passages, as affording a signal illustration of Dr. Rush's philanthropy, at a period, [1793] when Philadelphia was suffering under all the horrors of the Yellow Fever.

R. I. American.

This disease had appeared in Philadelphia in 1762, and now returned after a lapse of twenty-three years, with unexampled malignity. War and famine have seldom presented a scene of more complicated horror. It endured about one hundred days, commencing in July, and subsiding towards the beginning of September, during which time nearly the whole city was exhausted of its inhabitants, who had either fallen victims to the disease or had fled from their infectious dwellings; the rich to the adjacent country, and a promiscuous multitude of the poor to tents prepared for them in the vicinage of the city. The number who died in this short period was about four thousand five hundred, and the condition of the diseased was often attended by circumstances of distress the most deplorable. Indeed, whatever has been ever recorded of human misery, or even what poetic fancy has ever imagined, appears to have been exhibited, on this occasion, in its most horrid reality.

The city itself presented every where the image of desolation. For nearly two months scarcely an individual was seen upon the streets, unless engaged in some melancholy office; seeking aid for the sick, or conducting the dead to their place of interment; and no other sound but that of the hearse or the vehicle of the physician interrupted the frightful solitude. Even the interstices of the pavements are said to have been occupied by grass and weeds. In a populous city, where men are accustomed to witness the bustle of multitudes and activities of business, the absence of such objects necessarily fills the mind with the most painful or melancholy sensations.

The magnanimous conduct of Dr. Rush in this emergency, his devotion to his profession, and total disregard of personal safety, have entitled him to the unceasing gratitude and admiration of his countrymen. To use the words of the celebrated Zimmerman, "Sa conduite a me que l'humanité entiere lui eleve une statue."

During the fiercest rage of the disease, nearly all the physicians disappeared from the city: either having sought safety by flight into the country, or having perished in the indiscriminate mortality. At one time, when not less than six thousand persons were prostrate in the disease, three practitioners only remained to supply their necessities. The labors of Dr. Rush, in this emergency, were without remission, and he certainly accomplished difficulties, and sustained fatigues, to which the powers of life, under ordinary courage, had proved wholly inadequate. From the eighth to the fifteenth of September, he visited and prescribed for about one hundred and twenty patients per day. For several weeks his house was filled, and sometimes surrounded by multitudes imploring his assistance. To these he prescribed during the intervals of his visits, using the help of three of his pupils, who resided for this purpose in his family; employing them either in putting up medicine, in bleeding, or in visiting the sick. But although he devoted even the hurried periods of his meals to such offices, he was unable to supply the numerous applications that were made to him, and great numbers were obliged every day to retire without the benefit of his advice or prescription; a circumstance which often placed him in an unhappy predicament; being obliged to turn a deaf ear to the most pathetic entreaties, urged with all the zeal of friendship, of conjugal, filial, or parental affection; and even when riding through the streets, to drive with such speed as might secure him from interruption, or place him beyond the cries of his wretched petitioners. By those unremitted labors for the relief of others, his own health was at one time overpowered, and his life for a while despaired of; he was, however, by the timely application of remedies, restored; and, with his usual assiduity, he returned to his practice. On this occasion he was urged by his friends to leave the city, and no longer place his safety in such imminent hazard. To their solicitations and urgent importunities he replied, "that he thought it his duty to sacrifice not only his pleasure and repose, but his life, should it be necessary, for the safety of his patients."

The celebrated Aaron Hill, when in Egypt, had the curiosity to examine a catacomb. He was accompanied in his expedition by two gentlemen, and conducted by one of the natives of the country as a guide. They at length arrived at the spot, and, without taking any notice

of some fellows, who were sauntering about the place, descended by ropes into the vault. No sooner were they let down than they were presented with a spectacle which struck them with horror. Two gentlemen, apparently starved to death, lay before them; one of these unhappy victims had a tablet in his hand, on which was written, in very pathetic language, the story of their lamentable fate. It seemed that they were brothers of rank and family in Venice, and having in the course of their travels entrusted themselves with one of the natives for the purpose of visiting the catacomb, the perfidious villain had left them to perish. The danger to which Mr. Hill and his friends were exposed instantly alarmed them.—They had scarcely read the tale, when, looking up, they beheld their inhuman guide, assisted by two others, whom they had seen near the spot, closing the entrance into the vault. They were now reduced to the utmost distress; they, however, drew their swords, determined to make a desperate effort to rescue themselves from a situation so appalling. With this resolution, they were groping about at random in the dark, when they were started at the groaning of some one seemingly in the agonies of death. They listened to the dismal sound, and at length, by the glimmering light from the top of the catacomb, they saw a man just murdered, and a little beyond they beheld his inhuman murderer, flying with the utmost precipitation. They pursued them immediately, and though not able to come up with them, they had the good fortune to reach the opening through which the wretches escaped out of the cavern, just before they had time to roll the stone on the top of it.

## THE MIDNIGHT REVEL.

"Now o'er one half the world  
Nature seems dead, and wretched murder,  
Alarmed by his sentinel, the wolf,  
Moves like a ghost....." Macbeth.

The wind of November whistled shrill and cold among the precipices that jutted over the mountain road from Alesbury towards Northumberland, as, at the decline of day, two travellers, on horseback, were crossing with weary pace the long ridges towards the great elbow of the Susquehanna, and notwithstanding the clouds lay heavily towards the distant mountain tops, and the shadows of approaching night gathered rapidly, they paused upon the northern extremity of the last eminence, dismounted, and appeared to be taking a survey of the country around them, a country embodying some of the most grand and sublime scenery in nature. To north and south, one vast extent of forest lay outstretched, broken and diversified by hill and valley, now dimly seen, but not less interesting in its aspect. In one direction were to be seen seven stupendous pyramidal piles; pushing their pine crowned summits through the black clouds, they seemed fit habitations for the fire spirits of the restless elements, and one could almost fancy the angels of the tempest gathering in those unvisited realms, a universe of stormy clouds—while in the west a peaceful river flowed away in calm and unbroken solitude through its devious course.—Such was the scene the travellers were left surveying when twilight followed the declining sun, and the dreary night came swift upon the transient gleaming.

A long three miles from this, on a dim and narrow road was a small public house called in those days the "Inn of the Forest." There was a thin settlement from this some miles on, chiefly men of the rudest cast in life, often honest and kind in their way, nevertheless brooked not the control of law, and, living far off from the city and town, enjoyed their game, and were themselves the only umpires of each other's rights and wrongs; such as these made up the company that gathered in the tavern that night, and as the winds blew louder, and the weather grew colder without, so did their noise and rioting, and the turbulence of their spirits increase within.

Mingling with this tumultuous assembly around the bar-room fire, and the long card-table stretched out before it, were to be seen the two strangers; they were wrapped up in fur hunting cloaks, and while one of them took part in the boisterous laugh, and played his game at the card-table, and drank freely, the other stretched himself to sleep in a corner. The more forcible stranger soon acquired the confidence of his new companions; and as he himself professed to be a tavern-keeper, he gained the especial favor of the landlord, a black whiskered, downcast, dark looking man, upon whose countenance the stamp of vice was fixed, and who was the loudest and most clamorous in the circle, and drank, and played, and boasted, and cursed with a kind of frenzied insatiation.

These riotings were kept up throughout the midnight hours; and while the inebriated guests one by one, dropped asleep, and while without, the storm sung in melancholy and plaintive sweetness through the seared pine trees, that single stranger kept one little circle he had gathered around him by the fire, in fixed and wakeful attention to harrowing tales of hell devised murders, and fearful retributions, and walking ghosts and marvellous facts brought to the light of day by supernatural agencies; and

and detailed a thousand instances to prove that "Murder though it hath no tongue, will speak With most miraculous organ."

In vain the host endeavored to turn, at every period, the subject. In vain he stirred the dying embers and invited the guest to sleep. In vain he trembled and turned pale; the traveller leaped invincible, and at every change, murder and its bloody consequences were still his theme, and still his eye was fixed on the disquieted features of the host. It was dark and penetrating; and his voice grew hoarse as he bit them harken to the screeching wind. It seemed to him, he said, to be burdened with a voice, in the words of Macbeth, "still it cried sleep no more to all the house." The company started and listened; some thought they heard the voice, and some fancied they distinguished those very words; what can it mean? was the inquiry that went round—"hark," said the stranger, "heard you not that! listen! Rolland, Rolland, a mother and six innocent children, murdered by your hand, summon you to the grave with them!" A heavy charge said he, as he turned towards the host, who, startled at the awful import of the words, rose in wild agitation, and clenching his fists, hallooed as to the voice—"If I slew you it was at another's instigation, and the money I got for it, I buried in the rapids of the Susquehanna!" "Yet for that crime," said the other stranger, who till now had been silent, apparently asleep, "by virtue of a State's warrant, and in the name of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania we arrest you, Dubois Rolland, to answer at the bar of your country!" and as he said it, deliberately rose, drew a pair of double-barrelled pistols from his cloak, and calmly laid them before him, while the other throwing off his loose garment, stood before the astonished man, in the garb of an officer of justice, completely armed with dirk and pistols.

Resistance was in vain; the murderer was seized and carried to the skirts of an adjoining wood, where he was mounted on horseback, secured, carried thirty miles, and lodged in jail before ten o'clock next morning.

This was a plan adopted and executed by the members of a weak village police, in a country where the supremacy of the law had often to be maintained rather by stratagem than by open force, and by which was brought to justice and to the scaffold, one of the most bloody villains that ever hung upon a gallows; a man who had murdered, according to his own confession afterwards made, a mother and her orphan family, for a price paid him by a relative, who was next heir to a small and petty estate.

## THE MARRIAGE OF MONTALVO.

A LEGEND—FOUNDED ON FACT.

Heaven in its wisdom hath ordain'd thy lot, Trust in its mercy then, and doubt it not. The storm raved furiously around—tremendous thunders burst in awful grandeur o'er the castle of Duralvo; while the red lightning flashed in frightful radiance around the tall spires of the west tower, where the importunate and widowed Donna Clowdia, in the lone solitude of her prison, wept o'er the ruined prospects of her youth, and the inexorable decrees of him who had rent asunder the sacred ties of nature, and sought the immolation of his own offspring at the shrine of interest and ambition. But that inscrutable Power which calms into peace the raging billows, may counteract the designs of man, and pour the bright sunshine of happiness even amid the glooms of bitterest adversity.

It was now the hour of midnight, and the dark spirits of the air were abroad, mingling their wild shrieks in the fearful howling of the tempest; while often and anon mysterious sounds were borne along the gale that swept mournfully through the dark casement of the tower, or dying suddenly away in the distance, were lost in the roaring of the storm. Amid the terrible warping of the elements, the murmuring of voices was now distinctly heard, mingling in the blast, and which seemed approaching nearer and nearer; and soon the heavy tread of footsteps sounded upon the stairs which led immediately to her apartment. Scarcely had she implored the protecting care of heaven, ere the door flew open, and her father, the stern Baron de Solanes, was at her side! I am come once more, ungrateful Clowdia, he vociferated, to save you from the result of your fatal obstinacy: wed the Marquis de Montalvo, and you not only obey the sacred injunctions of a parent, but in that splendid alliance you wipe away the unhappy feuds which have long hung over our house. My father, exclaimed the unfortunate lady, death would be preferable to such an union. Suffer me, in the peaceful retirement of a convent, to hide my sorrows, and the remainder of my unhappy days. Cease—cease thy idle sophistry! rejoined the angry Baron, foaming with ill suppressed rage—for the present I shall leave you to the undisturbed enjoyment of your insolence and pride—to-morrow I go hence for Madrid, where I shall await your decision; either the black vault beneath the castle, or the bridal honors of the Marchioness de Montalvo await you.

The following morning she heard him depart with a feeble hope, but it was transient; a moment's reflection brought back every circumstance of her situation with redoubled bitterness. Day after day rolled heavily on—no lu-

mad object approached her. A fortnight had now elapsed, and the short pittance of bread was exhausted—of the small allowance of water a few drops remained; while the helpless babe, worn with famine and suffering, lay moaning piteously and extending its little hand in vain for its usual sustenance. O! the horrors of that moment no language can portray! Again a step is heard upon the stair—the door of her apartment was thrown open, and again the Baron de Solanes is at her side. I am come for the last time, unhappy woman, he exclaimed, to offer you the hand and fortune of Mantalvo—splendor and honor await you—relent and be happy. He took her hand. She withdrew it not. Pale and motionless he led her from the apartment.

Again the halls of Duralvo echoed to the sounds of mirth and festivity; the bridal banquet is prepared; the guests invited; and already the dancers commenced—when, just as the bell of the castle tolled the hour of twelve, it was announced to the Marquis de Montalvo, that a stranger was at the gate.—Let him be admitted was the reply; and in a few minutes a tall, elegant cavalier entered the room. Every eye was fixed on him—when the lady Donna Clowdia, with a sudden scream of joy, threw herself into the arms of the stranger! It was indeed her husband—the long lost and deeply lamented Viscount de Clareville.

FIDELIA.

Augusta Chronicle.

## ANECDOTAL.

"I am absolutely afraid," said the Duke of Buckingham to Sir Robert Vinnet, "I am absolutely afraid that I shall die a beggar." "At the rate you go on," replied Sir Robert, "I am afraid it will be worse—I am afraid you will live one."

A gentleman at an Inn having a very long bill of fare presented to him by the landlord, asked his name; "Partridge," said the landlord. "Indeed," says the guest, "I thought it had been Shippe, by the length of your bill."

A Miller left his Mill, on the day that La Fayette visited Salem, and wrote over his door the following: "No grinding to day, except for La Fayette—who in our national struggle, ground our enemies to powder.—Reg."

Judicial Pleasantry.—A lawyer now deceased, a celebrated wag, was pleading before a Scotch Judge, with whom he was on the most intimate terms. Happening to have a client, a female, defendant in an action, of the name of Tickle, he commenced his speech in the following humorous strain: "Tickle, my client, the defendant, my Lord—" The auditors, amused with the oddity of the speech, were almost driven in to hysterics of laughter by the Judge replying, "Tickle her yourself, Harry—you're as able to do it as I."

A hypocrite (says Butler) is a saint that goes by clock work; a machine made by the Devil's geometry, which he winds and nicks to go as he pleases. He is the Devil's finger watch that never goes true; but too fast or too slow, as the Devil sets it. A hypocrite's religion is a mummery, and his gospel walkings nothing but a masquerade. He never wears his own person, but assumes a shape, as the Devil does when he appears. A hypocrite is a weathercock upon the steeple of the church, that turns with every wind.

A country fellow who had just come to London gaping about in every shop he came to, at last he looked into a lottery office, where seeing only one man sitting at a desk, he could not imagine what commodity was sold there; but calling to the clerk, Pray, sir, said he, what do you sell here? Loggerheads! cried the other. Do you, answered the countryman; egad, then you have a special trade, for I see you have but one left.

The celebrated doctor P——, of Fairhaven, in the course of the year generally makes an elegant dinner for his brethren of the clergy; and in common, none of the other learned professions, either medical or legal, are admitted to this select party. As no rule exists, without an exception, the doctor, upon a certain occasion, invited a gentleman of the bar.—He was the only one present. At dinner an apology was offered for the appearance of a character so foreign from the clerical. A would be wit remarked, that the matter was excusable, for when the sons of God assembled, the devil came also. True, replies the lawyer, and the same book relates, that a certain man fell among thorns.

The Welsh Rabbit.—A traveller arriving late one evening, at the George Inn, in a country town not many miles from the Lands-End, called for a Welsh Rabbit; after waiting a considerable time, he rung the bell to inquire if it was ready. "Sir," said the servant wench, "my master has been all over the town, and cannot get a Welsh Rabbit, for love or money!" "Oh! very well," replied he, laughing, "then let him get a couple of eggs, and, d'ye hear, boil them soft." Again his patience was tried, and again he rung the bell. "Are my eggs ready?" said he. "Sir," answered the girl, with a low curtsy, "they have been boiling this half hour, and are now just as hard as when I put them in; they will not boil soft!"

A sailor was lately at a chapel, the parson observing he looked rather serious, approaching, asked him if he felt any change? The sailor put his hand into his pocket, and said he was very sorry, but he had not got one cent.

A gentleman travelling in the West of Scotland, perceived an old man, aged about ninety, crying most bitterly, and upon inquiring the reason, he informed him that his father had been whipping him. The gentleman stepped into the house, to expostulate with the father for the cruel treatment of the son, whom he exclaimed, "He deserved it; the young rascal was throwing stones at his grandfather who is working in the garden."

George Hanger taking the air in Hyde Park, an observation was made on the indecency of persons bathing in the Serpentine river. "It is, indeed," said George, "very indecent to see so many girls running about naked." "Girls?" said a young lady, "they are boys." "I ask your pardon, madam," returned he; "I find I have been mistaken; as they had no clothes on, I did not know; I yield to your superior judgment."







Joseph Crocker; Decker, Mrs. Charleston, Exeter, Co. and Garland, Cornelius Coolidge; Eliza, Carmel, Dismont, Newport, Levan and No. 3, 3d Range, Robert Stuart; Newbury, Hapden and Herman, David Sweet; Sibley, Williamsburg, Blakesburg, Mayfield, Brownville, Kilmarnock, No. 1, 7th Range, Joshua Carpenter.

## SUMMARY OF INTELLIGENCE.

NEW-ENGLAND, January 5.

**Distressing.**—On Monday 27th ult. while Mr. Eleazer Avery, of Colchester, was killing his fogs, one or two of the hands were called into the house for the purpose of removing from the fire a large kettle of boiling water, intended for scalding. It being found necessary to lighten the burden, a few pails were forthwith removed therefrom, and set in one corner of the room. At the moment of removing the vessel from the fire, the crane on which it was suspended, drawing the bolts from the jambs, gave way, drawing the boiling liquid on the floor, scalding the feet and other parts of those who were present: particularly a child of Mr. Avery, aged three years, who unfortunately was passing by at the moment. But what makes our blood recoil within us, is to have to record the shocking end of our narrative. The sister of the child, as we are credibly informed, who was not present, but near by, hearing the screams of the little innocent, ran to its relief, caught it in her arms, and proceeding direct to the water, which she supposed was cold, and had been deposited there in order to moderate the boiling, (as was natural to suppose,) plunged the child therein, which immediately ended its existence.

**Fire.**—The large 2 story dwelling house, of the Rev. Methusala Baldwin, of Scotch Town, Orange County, N. Y., was consumed by fire on Saturday the 25th ult. together with all his furniture, and a valuable library, valued at \$500 dollars. The fire originated under a hearth in the second story, about 4 o'clock, P. M. Mr. Baldwin is a native of Newark, N. J. A solitary bed or change of clothing was saved to one of the family. *Newark Cent.*

**Fire.**—The dwelling house of Doctor Enos Weed, of Stamford, was entirely consumed by fire on the night of the 25th of December, with all its contents. The Doctor and his wife were aroused from their slumbers by the crackling of the flames just in season to save their lives. It is not known in what manner the fire originated. *Norwalk Gazette.*

**A Relief.**—A leaden ball, extracted recently from a Revolutionary soldier, has been shown in New-York by his son. It appeared that the father was a soldier of the Revolution; and, at the battle of Springfield, (N. J.) while leading his musket, the ball struck him on the left elbow, entered his side, broke his ribs, and lodged in the cavity of the stomach, where it quietly reposed 48 years. The old soldier, lately, having given previous orders not to be buried with British lead in him; accordingly, Dr. Ward, of Belleville, N. J. extracted it. *N. York paper.*

## FOREIGN.

**Fires in London.**—A dreadful fire has recently taken place in Fleet-street, London. It commenced in the shop of Mr. Bond, linen draper, No. 37, and extended to several of the adjoining premises, and caused a destruction of property to nearly the amount of £100,000. No lives were lost. Another fire the following day, totally destroyed the premises of Messrs. Wilkinson & Son, cabinet-makers and upholsters, No. 14, Ludgate-street, and considerably injured the adjoining buildings. One fire-man, who was supposed to have perished in the flames. The first mentioned fire was produced by the dropping of a candle from a candle, which set fire to the gas used in lighting the shop, which had not been properly let off. Among the occupants of the buildings were the editors of the *Traveler*, and *Sunday Monitor*, whose establishments were burnt. The family of Carlisle (the father of the deistical publications for which he is now in Newgate) were also exposed to flames, which gave rise to the following peculiar circumstance: In the confusion some of them took refuge in a church, and placed themselves, also, for safe keeping, a quantity of the writings of the celebrated Tom Paine, among which were many copies of his *Age of Reason*. The family of one of the occupants, Mr. Smith, consisted of nine persons—himself, wife, mother, and six children; he had scarcely time to escape the latter, who slept in the attic and was forced to rush through the flames with two of his children. He placed them in the court, and ran to save his mother, and on his return missed his youngest child, a girl about four years of age. The agonized father fled again into the street, which was entirely in flames, and found his poor child crying in a corner of the kitchen. As he ascended the crackling stairs with his daughter, part of the house fell and he nearly suffocated in making his way out.

It is said the Greek government is about to make an appeal to all christians in the four corners of the globe to take part in a vast crusade, the object of which would be the conquest of Egypt and the Holy Sepulchre.

Extract of a letter to a merchant in Boston, dated Smyrna, October 9.

A very severe action has just been fought in the Gulf, between the Greeks and the combined Egyptian and Ottoman fleets, consisting of about 90 sail of vessels of war. The Greeks gained a great victory; but the details I am unable to give you. From the best information we have obtained it appears certain that the Greeks have destroyed three frigates and several other ships. A French ship of war has brought in two men, (Turks,) belonging to two of the ships destroyed.

We heard distinctly the cannonade during the whole night of the 7th, and the blowing up of the ships had the same effect as the shocks of an earthquake, though at the distance of 30 miles.

## MAINE LEGISLATURE.

### IN SENATE.

MONDAY, January 10.  
Petitions—of Charles Whitman and others, and the Selectmen of Waterford, were taken from the files of the Senate and committed.

A communication from the Treasurer of the State, accompanied by his annual Report, was received, read, and committed.

TUESDAY, January 11.  
The Report of the Hon. P. Mellen and N. Weston, a committee appointed pursuant to a resolve of the last Legislature to revise the fee bill, was read and sent down. [This committee report that it is inexpedient to make any alteration therein.]  
Tuesday of next week is assigned for coming to a choice of a Major General of the 8th, a new Division of the Militia, formed from the 2d Division.

A committee was appointed to consider what alterations are necessary in the existing laws relating to trespass.

Resolve for appointing commissioners to confer with the Directors of the American Asylum, and Commissioners of other States respecting the education of the Deaf and Dumb, passed to be engrossed.

WEDNESDAY, January 12.  
A Message was received from the Governor by the Secretary of State, communicating Reports from the Inspectors and the Warden of the State Prison.

Petition of Bowdoin College for Legislative aid was read and committed.

### IN THE HOUSE.

SATURDAY, January 8.  
A remonstrance against the election of Benjamin Webber of Sweden was read and committed.

Ordered, in concurrence with the Senate, that no petition of a private nature be received by the Legislature after the twenty-second day of the present month.

On motion of Mr. Pike of Bridgton, a committee was appointed to inquire into the expediency of altering the law relative to the choice of *Register of Deeds*—with leave to report by bill or otherwise.

MONDAY, January 10.  
The committee on Elections reported in favor of Walter P. Carpenter, returned as a representative from Mexico, Weld, Peru, &c. which report was accepted, and Mr. Carpenter authorized to take his seat.

Several petitions for a revision of the Militia Law were read and committed.

TUESDAY, January 11.  
Petitions read and referred to the committee on New Trials, viz. of Plantation No. 4, Oxford County, to be authorized to sell ministerial and school lands; of Thomas Clark and others for additional terms of the Supreme and Common Pleas Courts in the County of Oxford; of David Shaw and others that the fees of Jurymen may be increased.

Petitions read and committed—Of Desney Randall for divorce; of Selectmen of Waterford that certain taxes may be made valid; of Reuben Dodge and others for revision of the laws establishing the Courts of Sessions; of John H. Boody and others for the same; of William Drew and others for a law prohibiting pedlars; of Fryeburg Canal Company for a grant of certain lands; of Trustees of Waterville College for Legislative aid; of Trustees of Gardiner Lyceum for same; of Heman Nye for an addition to his pension; of Joshua Smith and others to be allowed fees for attending a Court Martial at Paris.

Petition of Abraham Lord and others of Brownfield, to be annexed to Denmark, was read and referred to the committee on incorporation of towns.

The two Houses met in Convention in the Representatives' chamber this day, when Elias Stowell, Esq. Councillor elect, came in and took the oaths required to qualify him to enter on the duties of his office.

WEDNESDAY, January 12.  
Petition, read and referred to the committee on incorporation of towns, of Levi Whitman and others, to set off certain lots of land from Paris to Norway.

Petition of Thomas Farrington and others of Fryeburg Addition to be added to the Representative class of Fryeburg, &c. was committed to the committee on New Trials.

Petition of Jos. C. Washburn and others for a law to prohibit pedlars was read and committed.

On motion of Mr. Goodnow, of Alfred, a committee was appointed to consider the expediency of altering the law respecting pounds and impounding of beasts at large, with leave to report by bill or otherwise.

On motion of Mr. Fessenden of Portland, the committee on new trials was instructed to consider the expediency of providing by law that *writs of certiorari* be made *viâ de right*, with leave to report by bill or otherwise.

Petition of the Trustees of "Readfield Religious and Charitable Society," that the name may be changed to that of the "Maine Wesleyan Society," was read and committed.

On motion of Mr. Cobb, of Durham, a committee was appointed to inquire into the expediency of prohibiting by law public treats on days of election.

On motion of Mr. Emerson, of Harrison, a committee was appointed to consider the expediency of providing by law to prevent unnecessary expense in the collecting of debts.

**Cumberland and Oxford Canal.**—A petition from Woodbury Storor and others, of Portland, in behalf of the Cumberland and Oxford Canal Corporation, praying for a new Bank, with a capital stock of three hundred thousand dollars, one third of said capital stock to be taken by the Canal Corporation, and also praying that the usual tax of one per cent. on the capital may not be imposed on said Bank, was read and committed to the committee on Banks and Banking.

**Register of Deeds.**—Mr. Pike from the committee appointed to consider the expediency of altering the existing law relative to the choice of Register of Deeds, reported a Bill. The Bill provides that after two trials to elect a Register of Deeds in any County in the State, without effecting a choice, it shall be the duty of the Court of Sessions to make a return of all the votes to the Secretary's office to be laid before the Governor and Council, whose duty it shall be to appoint some person to fill the office of Register.

**Taxes on Lands owned in common.**—On motion of Mr. Fessenden, of Portland, the committee on new trials was instructed to consider what alterations are necessary in the laws relative to the assessment and collection of taxes on lands in this State owned by proprietors in common. The mover, to illustrate his object, remarked that under the existing law a person owning a thousand acres of land in an unsettled township could not settle the taxes on his land exclusively, without paying the tax for the whole township. This was an evil, said Mr. Fessenden, which prevails to a considerable extent in this State, and which it was his object to remedy.

On motion of Mr. Eveleigh, of Windham, the committee on new trials was instructed to inquire what alteration is necessary in the act for establishing a Court of Common Pleas, so far as said act relates to costs arising on appeals from said Court to the Supreme Court.

## STANDING COMMITTEES OF THE SENATE.

**On Bills in the 2nd reading.**—Messrs. Stebbins, Dunlap, Holland, Prime, Scamman, Dunn, Parsons, of L.

**On Engrossed Bills.**—Messrs. Ripley, Parsons, of Y. Churchill and Parlin.

**STANDING COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE.**  
**On Contested Elections.**—Messrs. Adams, of Portland, Pond, Goodnow, Wingate and Cobb.

**On Pay Rolls.**—Messrs. Russell, Howard and Cunningham.

**On County Estimates.**—Messrs. Boutelle, Hodgman and Dacomb.

**On Finance.**—Messrs. Boutelle, Blaney, Cummings, Hall and Robinson.

**On Change of Names.**—Messrs. Cram, McLane and Flint.

**On Bills in 3d reading.**—Messrs. Allen, Eveleigh, Hathaway, Benson and Sweat.

**On Engrossed Bills.**—Messrs. Abbot, Pike, Low, Merrill and Treat.

**On Leave of Absence.**—Messrs. Burr, Ricker and McCallis.

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEES.**  
**On Literature and Literary Institutions.**—Messrs. Dunlap, Parsons, of York, of the Senate, Messrs. Pond, Williams, Fessenden, of the House.

**On State Lands.**—Messrs. Parlin, Kelsey, of the Senate, Messrs. Treat, Pitts, Talbot, of the House.

**On Incorporation of Towns.**—Messrs. Greene, and Prime, of the Senate, Messrs. McCobb, White, Spring of the House.

**On Incorporation of Parishes and other Religious Societies.**—Messrs. Whitney, Fairbanks, of the Senate, Messrs. Cobb, Bailey, Francis, of the House.

**On Turnpikes, Bridges and Canals.**—Messrs. Campbell, Holland of the Senate, Messrs. Dunn, Charles, Trask of the House.

**On Interior Fisheries.**—Messrs. Parsons, of Lincoln, Shepard of the Senate, Messrs. Chase, McKinn and Vass, of the House.

**On Application of Manufacturing Companies.**—Messrs. Southwick, Scamman, of the Senate, Messrs. Merrill, Vance and Weymouth, of the House.

**On Banks and Banking.**—Messrs. Churchill, Lord, Dunlap, of the Senate, Williams, Richardson, Mowry, Allen, Burr, of the House.

**On Militia and Military Affairs.**—Messrs. Ripley, Campbell, of the Senate, Messrs. Fessenden, Williams, Ford, Carpenter and Chase, of the House.

**On Application of sick and wounded Soldiers.**—Messrs. Holland, Dunn, of the Senate, Messrs. Eastman, Humphrey and Carpenter, of the House.

**On New Trials.**—Messrs. Stebbins, Dunlap, of the Senate, Messrs. Dane, Adams and Goodnow, of the House.

**On Accounts.**—Messrs. Scamman, Parsons, of the Senate, Messrs. Shaw, Quinman and Sturdivant, of the House.

**EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS.**

**IN SENATE, MONDAY, Jan. 3.**  
**Inland Trade between Missouri and Mexico.**—Mr. Benton presented an interesting statement of facts in relation to the origin, present state, and future prospects of the trade between the Valley of the Mississippi and the interior of Mexico, furnished at his request by Mr. Augustus Storrs, late of New-Hampshire, one of a caravan of 81 persons, 23 wagons, and 136 horses which had made the expedition from Missouri to Santa Fe, in May and June last, which was ordered to be printed, and referred to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

[The fruit of this expedition, Mr. B. said amounted to \$100,000 in gold and silver coin and bullion, and precious furs; the principal article given in exchange being American Cotton, which was grown in the South, manufactured in the North, and exported from the West.]—*Continued*

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.**  
**TUESDAY, Jan. 4.**  
**Amendment of the Constitution.**—Mr. Saunders of N. C. offered an amendment of the Constitution providing for the establishment of uniform districts for the choice of Electors of President, &c. and providing that the person having the greatest number of the Electoral votes, shall be President, if such number be one third of the whole number of the Electors appointed, with provisions in case two persons have more than one third, &c. Referred to the Committee of the whole.

WEDNESDAY, Jan. 5.  
On motion of Mr. Strong, the President was requested, if not incompatible with public interest, to communicate the proceedings and documents of the Court Martial in the cases of Lieuts. Weaver and ——. The object of the mover was, to ascertain how our officers had conducted themselves in the Pacific generally, and especially on the coast of America.

THURSDAY, January 6.  
**MESSAGE OF THE PRESIDENT.**  
To the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States:

As the term of my service in this high trust will expire at the end of the present session of Congress, I think it proper to invite your attention to an object very interesting to me, and which, in the movement of our government, is deemed, on principle, equally interesting to the public. I have been long in the service of my country, and in its most difficult conjunctures, as well abroad as at home, in the course of which I have had a control over the public moneys to a vast amount. If, in the course of my service, it shall appear, on the most severe scrutiny, which I invite, that the public have sustained any loss by any act of mine, or of others for which I ought to be held

responsible, I am willing to bear it. If, on the other hand, it shall appear on a view of the law, and of precedents in other cases, that justice has been withheld from me, in any instance, as I have believed it to be in many, and greatly to my injury, it is submitted whether it ought not to be rendered. It is my wish that all matters of account and claims, between my country and myself be settled, with that strict regard to justice which is observed in settlements between individuals in private life. It would be gratifying to me, and it appears to be just, that the subject should be now examined, in both respects, with a view to a decision hereafter. No bill would, it is presumed, be presented for my signature, which would operate either for or against me, and I would certainly sanction none in my favor. While here I can furnish testimony applicable to any case, in both views which a full investigation may require; and the committee to whom the subject may be referred, by reporting facts now, with a view to a decision after my retirement will allow time for further information, and due consideration of all matters relating thereto. Settlements with a person in this trust, which could not be made with the accounting officers of the government, should always be made by Congress, and before the public.

The cause of the delay in presenting these claims, will be explained to the committee to whom the subject may be referred. It will, I presume, be made apparent that it was inevitable; and that from considerations of delicacy it would have been highly improper for me to have sought it from Congress at an earlier period than that which is now proposed—the expiration of my term in this high trust. Other considerations appear to me to operate with great force, in favor of the measure which I now propose. A citizen who has long served his country, in its highest trusts, has a right, if he has served with fidelity, to enjoy undisturbed tranquility and peace in his retirement. This he cannot expect to do unless his conduct, in all pecuniary concerns, shall be placed, by severe scrutiny, on a basis not to be shaken. This, therefore, forms a strong motive with me for the inquiry which I now invite. The public may also derive considerable advantage from the precedent in the future movement of the government. It being known that such scrutiny was made in my case, it may form a new and strong barrier against the abuse of the public confidence in future. JAMES MONROE.

Washington, January 5, 1825.

The Message was laid on the table and ordered to be printed.

## MARRIAGES.

In Sumner, on Thursday last, by Asa Barton, Esq. Mr. John Butterfield, to Mrs. Catherine Benson.

In Hebron, Mr. Stephen Cummings, of Norway, to Miss Fanny, daughter of Hon. Wm. C. Whitney.

## DEATHS.

In Woodstock, very suddenly, on Tuesday morning last, Mr. Seth Benson.

In Bangor, 2d inst. Rev. Harry Loomis. He was well in the morning of that day, being Sabbath, went to the meeting-house in a violent storm, entered the pulpit, sat down, and in a few minutes leaned back his head and died without a struggle. It is supposed, the violent exercise occasioned by his walking to meeting in a storm, produced an overflow of blood in the head, which brought on an apoplexy.

In Salem, Mrs. Annis Boden, wife of Mr. Charles Boden, aged 46.—Mr. William Very, aged 70; and Mr. Jacob Read, aged 71, both revolutionary soldiers.

In Danvers, Mr. Eleazer Pike, aged 64, a revolutionary soldier.

In Charlton, Mrs. Elizabeth Waters, relict of Capt. Israel W. aged 70.

Drowned in Newton, Lower Falls, Stephen Francis, an adopted child of Mr. Francis and Mrs. Eliza Hooge, aged 5 years.

In Lebanon, a few days since, a child of Mr. Albert Gardiner, was amusing itself by the fire, at school, in the intermission, its clothes took fire, and so shocking was it burnt, that it expired, as we learn, in about four hours.

## EXECUTOR'S SALE.

TO BE SOLD at Public Auction, pursuant to a license from the Judge of Probate for the County of Oxford, on Wednesday the ninth day of February next, at ten of the clock in the forenoon, at the Court House, in Paris, so much of the Real Estate of JONAS GORE, late of Boston, in the County of Suffolk, and Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Esquire, deceased, as will produce the sum of sixty-one thousand and forty dollars, for the payment of debts and legacies of said deceased, and incidental charges.

The Real Estate to be sold, consists of TEN THOUSAND ACRES OF LAND, lying in common and undivided in township Numbered Seven, in the County of Oxford aforesaid, and adjoining the town of Rumford.

Conditions of sale to be made known at the time and place of sale.

Said township is settling fast, and contains a population of more than two hundred inhabitants, and a good road is now made through the town.

CHRISTOPHER GORE, and } Executors.  
SAMUEL GORE  
by PETER C. VIRGIN, their Attorney.  
Jan. 17, 1825. 3w 29

## MEDICAL BOOKS.

JUST RECEIVED and for sale at the OCEAN BOOKSTORE, the following Medical Books, which will be sold to Physicians at a discount from retail prices, even for a single copy:

Armstrong, Fordyce and Wilson, on Fevers; Bells' and Cooper's Surgery; Burns' Midwifery; Lectures on Surgery; Boyer on the Bones; Medical Dictionary; Senal on Fevers; Haller's Physiology; Haller's Engravings of the Arteries; Thom's Practice; Cullen's Practice; Thatcher's Dispensatory; Thatcher on Hydrophobia; Darwin's Zoonomia; Cullen's Materia Medica; Pharmacopoeia of the United States; Edinburg Pharmacopoeia.

Together with many other STANDARD WORKS on Medicine and Surgery.  
Jan. 13, 1825



